

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

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TOPIC Military Information from Plauen

25X1 EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT Late July to 9 August 1952

25X1 DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 30 September 1952

25X1 REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the period from 3 to 9 August 1952, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Neuen-dorfer Strasse, Plauen (M 51/K 12), was occupied by at least 2,000 soldiers who wore either black-bordered crimson epaulets or red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted] occupation had increased during recent weeks. All buildings were brightly lighted at dusk. [redacted]

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[redacted] personnel wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets went to the Kobitzschwalde training grounds where four trucks each transporting 20 soldiers had arrived earlier. Groups of who left the barracks installation toward the training grounds at 10:30 a.m. on 5 August included: 3 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, carrying field telephones; 1 officer and 24 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 1 light machine gun and rifles; 1 officer and 18 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, carrying signal equipment; 2 officers and 24 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 3 mortars, 3 light machine guns and 1 heavy machine gun; 5 officers and 54 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 3 heavy machine guns, 5 light machine guns and rifles; 1 officer and 18 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 1 heavy machine gun, 1 range finder and rifles; 2 officers and 24 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 3 light machine guns, rifles and submachine guns; 1 officer and 18 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, carrying signal equipment; 3 officers and 54 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 5 light machine guns, 3 heavy machine guns and 2 x 82-mm mortars; 1 officer and 18 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 1 light machine gun and rifles; 1 officer and 18 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, carrying entrenching tools; 1 officer and 12 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, carrying signal equipment; 2 officers and 24 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, carrying 1 heavy machine gun and 2 light machine guns; 2 officers and 24 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 1 heavy machine gun and 2 x 82-mm mortars; 2 officers and 36 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 6 light machine guns and 4 heavy machine guns; and 5 officers and 72 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with 5 light machine guns and 3 heavy machine guns. The column was followed by about 100 motor vehicles including 25 trucks towing 57-mm AT guns and numerous other trucks each occupied by about 20 soldiers. [redacted]

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Three SU-76 guns and 7 trucks were in the barracks yard on 7 August.

[redacted] 20 JS-3 tanks were unloaded at the Oberer Bahnhof in late July and were hauled to the Hindenburg Kaserne. After they were there for a number of days, they departed during the night of 4 August [redacted]

2. During the period from 4 to 6 August, the Koenig Georg Kaserne on Neuen-dorfer Strasse was occupied to capacity by about 100 soldiers and guarded by sentries who wore either red-bordered black epaulets or black-bordered crimson epaulets. [redacted] the installation was more heavily occupied than during recent weeks. Two 57-mm AT guns and six trucks were in the barracks yard on 4 August. About 200 soldiers were engaged in athletics on 6 August. **

3. On 9 August, the Kirchbach Kaserne on Zaderastrasse was occupied by about 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Individual soldiers wore signal insignia. About 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were drilling. No motor vehicle traffic was noticed. A radio truck from which a six-wire line extended toward Darga via Lounuehle on the Elster River was still in operation on the barracks yard. [redacted]

* [redacted] Comment. The information indicates that the 112th Gds Itz Rifle Regt of the 39th Gds Itz Rifle Div is still stationed in the Hindenburg Kaserne. [redacted] Soldiers of this regiment wear black-bordered red epaulets. There is no reason to believe [redacted] from the observation of black-bordered crimson epaulets that a major ICB unit is stationed in the barracks installation. Other information has indicated that only small components of the regiment had been in Girdraf for short training periods this summer. [redacted]

** [redacted] Comment. The 87th Gun Arty Regt of the 39th Gds Itz Rifle Div is carried in the Koenig Georg Kaserne. According to the reports of this source, this regiment has not been at a troop training grounds.

*** [redacted] Comment. Source previously reported 600 soldiers in the installation, and later only about 150 soldiers. [redacted]

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